

**General Studies 4**  
**Topic wise PYQ Brainstorming template.**

**Unit 7: Probity in Governance:** Concept of public service; Philosophical basis of governance and probity; Information sharing and transparency in government, Right to Information, Codes of Ethics, Codes of Conduct, Citizen's Charters, Work culture, Quality of service delivery, Utilization of public funds, challenges of corruption.

**Note:** Unless otherwise specified, each question carries **10 marks**, word limit is **150 words**

Question	Sub topic
1. What do you understand by 'probity' in public life? What are the difficulties in practicing it in the present times? How can these difficulties be overcome? (2014 2b)	Probity

<p>2. It is often said that poverty leads to corruption. However, there is no dearth of instances where affluent and powerful people indulge in corruption in a big way. What are the basic causes of corruption among people? Support your answer with examples. (2014, 5b)</p>	<p>Corrupt -ion/ reasons</p>
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<p>3. Some recent developments such as introduction of RTI Act, media and judicial activism, etc. are proving helpful in bringing about greater transparency and accountability in the functioning of the government. However, it is also being observed that at times the mechanisms are misused. Another negative effect is that the officers are now afraid to take prompt decisions. Analyze the situation in detail and suggest how the dichotomy can be resolved. Suggest how these negative impacts can be minimized. (2015, 4b)</p>	<p>Right to Information</p>
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<p>4. Today we find that in-spite of various measures of prescribing codes of conduct, setting up vigilance cells/commissions, RTI, active media and strengthening of legal mechanisms, corrupt practices are not coming under control.</p> <p>(a) Evaluate the effectiveness of these measures with justifications</p> <p>(b) Suggest more effective strategies to tackle this menace. (2015, 6)</p>	<p>Right to Information</p>
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5. Discuss the Public Services Code as recommended by the 2nd Administrative Reforms Commission. (2016, 3b)	Code of Ethics
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6. "Corruption causes misuse of government treasury, administrative inefficiency and obstruction in the path of national development." Discuss Kautilya's views. (2016, 4a)	Corruption, Probity, theory
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7. Discipline generally implies following the order and subordination. However, it may be counter-productive for the organization. Discuss. (2017, 8a)	Code of conduct, civil service values
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8. Distinguish between “Code of ethics” and “Code of conduct” with suitable examples. (2018, 1b)	Code of Ethics Code of Conduct
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9. "The Right to Information Act is not all about citizens' empowerment alone, it essentially redefines the concept of accountability. Discuss. (2018, 2b)	Right to information
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10. Effective utilization of public funds is crucial to meet development goals. Critically examine the reasons for under-utilization and mis-utilization of public funds and their implications. (2019, 2a)	Utilisation of Public Fund
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12. "Non-performance of duty by a public servant is a form of corruption". Do you agree with this view? Justify your answer. (150 words) 10 (2019, 2b)	Probity/ Corruption
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13. Explain the basic principles of citizens charter movement and bring out its importance. (2019, 4a)	Citizen Charter
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14. There is a view that the Official Secrets Act is an obstacle to the implementation of Right to Information Act. Do you agree with the view? Discuss. (2019, 4b)	RTI/ Challenges
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15. What do you understand by probity in governance? Based on your understanding of the term, suggest measures for ensuring probity in government. (2019,5a)	Probity
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16. An independent and empowered social audit mechanism is an absolute must in every sphere of public service, including judiciary, to ensure performance, accountability and ethical conduct. Elaborate. (2021, 6a)	Account-ability Social audit
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<p>17. Online methodology is being used for day-to-day meetings, institutional approvals in the administration and for teaching and learning in education sector to the extent telemedicine in the health sector is getting popular with the approvals of the competent authority. No doubt, it has advantages and disadvantages for both the beneficiaries and the system at large. Describe and discuss the ethical involved in the use of online method particularly to the vulnerable section of the society. (2022,4b)</p>	<p>Technology and governance</p>
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<p>18. Whistle-blower, who reports corruption and illegal activities, wrongdoing and misconduct to the concerned authorities, runs the risk of being exposed to grave danger, physical harm and victimization by the vested interests, accused persons and his team. What policy measures would you suggest to strengthen protection mechanism to safeguard the whistle-blower? (2022,6a)</p>	<p>Whistle-blowing Dilemmas in gov.</p>
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19. "Corruption is the manifestation of the failure of core values in the society." In your opinion, what measures can be adopted to uplift the core values in the society ? (2023, 2a)	Corrupt -ion
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20. In the context of work environment, differentiate between 'coercion' and 'undue influence' with suitable examples. (2023, 2b)	Professional ethics
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22. 'Probity is essential for an effective system of governance and socio-economic development.' Discuss. (2023, 5b)	Probity
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23. Explain the term social capital. How does it enhance good governance ? (2023, 6b)	Governance
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24. "The 'Code of Conduct' and 'Code of Ethics' are the sources of guidance in public administration. There is code of conduct already in operation, whereas code of ethics is not yet put in place. Suggest a suitable model for code of ethics to maintain integrity, probity and transparency in governance. (2024, 5a)	CoC and CoE
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<p>25. "In Indian culture and value system, an equal opportunity has been provided irrespective of gender identity. The number of women in public service has been steadily increasing over the years." Examine the gender-specific challenges faced by female public servants and suggest suitable measures to increase their efficiency in discharging their duties and maintaining high standards of probity. (2024, 6a)</p>	<p>Performance of civil Servants. Probity</p>
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26. Mission Karmayogi is aiming for maintaining a very high standard of conduct and behaviour to ensure efficiency for serving citizens and in turn developing oneself. How will this scheme empower the civil servants in enhancing productive efficiency and delivering the services at the grassroots level? (2024, 6b)	Efficiency of civil servants
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